



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360
www.state.nj.us/health

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

CHRISTINE GRANT, J.D., M.B.A.
Acting Commissioner

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 29, 2000

Members Present: Dr. Frank Briglia, Mr. Jesus Cepero, Dr. Frank Cunningham,
Ms. Carolyn Ferolito, Dr. Mary Kamienski, Dr. Al Sacchetti,
Mr. Daniel Sullivan, Dr. Thomas Whalen

Members Excused: Ms. Mary Ellen Brock, Dr. Martin Diamond, Dr. Richard Flyer,
Ms. Connie Levine, Ms. Laurine McCarty, Mr. Thomas Zarra

Guests: Dr. Ernest Leva, Mr. Michael Pante, Ms. Marianne Willis

*Department of Health
and Senior Services:* Dr. John Brennan, Ms. Bonnie Anderson,
Ms. Nancy Kelly-Goodstein, Ms. Deborah Gottlieb
Ms. Sarah Maestripieri, Mr. Gerard C. Muench, Jr.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Frank Briglia at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed members, guests and staff.

Introductions

Dr. Ernest Leva, representing the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, was introduced. Dr. Leva is a pediatrician in private practice and a pediatric emergency physician with St. Peter's Hospital in New Brunswick.

Ms. Marianne Willis, representing the mobile intensive care EMS educators, was introduced. Ms. Willis is the Mobile Intensive Care Program Director for Mountainside Hospital in Montclair.

Ms. Deborah Gottlieb, Legal Specialist, Certificate of Need and Acute Care Licensure, Department of Health and Senior Services, was introduced. Ms. Gottlieb is responsible for the proposed regulations for the emergency department, which reference the pediatric liaison nurse and physician, and the pediatric critical care emergency department register.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 4, 1999 meeting were approved as written.

Chairperson's Report

Emergency Department Regulations:

Over the past several years, the EMSC Advisory Council has proposed a number of recommendations to the Department for the development of a pediatric emergency services system. The impression is that the Department is not listening to the EMSC Advisory Council. Dr. Briglia and Ms. Ferolito met with a number of Department representatives in January, to discuss their frustrations with the process. Dr. Briglia is awaiting a written response from the Department as a follow-up to their January meeting. Mr. Muench said he would check on this response.

On December 20, 1999 the proposed emergency department regulations were published for final adoption. These regulations reference the 1999 American College of Surgeons guidelines for trauma care. Of specific concern is that hospitals would credential their own surgeons as opposed to having specific criteria for the pediatric surgeons.

The recommendations for the creation of a pediatric liaison nurse and pediatric liaison physician were published in the January 18, 2000 issue of the New Jersey Register. This proposed regulation then had an open comment period for 30 days.

The EMSC Advisory Council recommendation for a pediatrician to be available to the emergency department was deferred to a future publication in the New Jersey Register. Apparently, there were some concerns expressed to the Department over the language within the section that this recommendation appears. Specifically, this section requires that when requested, a specialist must respond to the hospital within 30 minutes. This response time requirement does not apply to a patient's private physician. The intent of the rule was to ensure that if an emergency physician wanted a specialist to respond, the physician would have to do so, keeping in mind the response times to rural hospitals. At the present time, it would be difficult to have a hospital track all of the specific times associated with this regulation. The Department would be required to monitor this rule. Ms. Gottlieb added that the Department had not placed this section on a back burner. Once consensus is reached, the proposed regulation will go forward. The EMSC Council was unaware of the letters sent to the Department from the Medical Society of New Jersey, the New Jersey Hospital Association and the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, expressing their concerns on this section. Dr. Brennan added that he was unaware that this letter would cause the Department to delay the publication of this section.

The Pediatric Emergency Department Registry was part of the proposed regulation published on January 18, 2000 in the New Jersey Register. The proposal appears to have every child treated in the emergency department entered into the registry. Ms. Gottlieb stated that there were legal impediments to publishing the rules in the exact manner recommended by the EMSC Advisory Council. The Department was given a choice to postpone the publication of the rule containing the pediatric registry, or to propose the rule, as amended, and retool the language. Ms. Gottlieb added that it would be her responsibility to reconstruct the rule, and she intends to work with the EMSC Advisory Council in this process. The members present then discussed the intention of the registry, and our vision for its implementation.

- The registry would be for critically ill and/or injured children
- The purpose is data collection (data could be sent electronically via the internet)
- Grant monies will be sought for this project
- The information would not be used for the generation of a “report card” type report

Ms. Gottlieb requested that any comments shared with the EMSC Advisory Council members be forwarded to her for incorporation into the reconstruction of this section. Additionally, Ms. Gottlieb indicated that the “marriage” of quality improvement and regulations is a major issue.

OEMS Report

Membership:

Mr. Raymond Saputelli, Executive Director, New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians has forwarded the names and resumes of two physicians interested in the open seat on the EMSC Advisory Council. The paperwork has been sent to the Commissioner’s Office.

Ms. Lauri McCarty has indicated that she intends to resign from the EMSC Advisory Council. Ms. McCarty stated that a change in work and family responsibilities has lead to this decision. Ms. Kelly-Goodstein will notify the Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council. Additionally, staff from the Commissioner’s Office is working on the expansion of the EMSC Advisory Council by four new members (NJ Trauma Center Council, NJ School Nurses Association, Department of Human Services, and the National Association of Pediatric Nurses. Finally, Dr. Martin Diamond, will represent the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Diamond’s appointment was confirmed by the New Jersey Senate, Judiciary Committee. Dr. Diamond is a pediatric physiatrist.

Prehospital Pediatric Education

At the last EMS Council meeting, data was requested on the number continuing education programs and number of providers trained in pediatrics. In 1999, there were 18 Prehospital Pediatric Emergency Care (PPEC) programs scheduled. 9 programs were conducted, with 324 providers trained. Additionally, there were 55 pediatric-related training programs scheduled, with 35 conducted, and 850 providers trained.

Basic Life Support Regulations

The Department is currently in the process of revising the regulations for providers of mobility assistance and ambulance services. Specific pediatric-related recommendations have been made to:

- Require pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation training for providers who transport children
- Require the use of a child safety seat in both mobility assistance vehicles and ambulances
- Specify language regarding the proper restraint of individuals transported in mobility assistance vehicles or ambulances

These recommendations would be the first of their kind in the nation.

EMSC Conference

The first one-day conference dedicated to EMS for Children is tentatively planned for Thursday May 18, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Somerset. A draft program agenda was distributed. Ms. Ferolito and Dr. Kamienski have offered to assist with this project. Program brochures should be ready by mid-March. The New Jersey chapters of the Emergency Nurses Association, the American College of Emergency Physicians and American Academy of Pediatrics have expressed an interest in co-sponsoring the event.

EMS Awards Ceremony

This years EMS awards ceremony is planned for May 18, at the DoubleTree Hotel. Ms. Maestriperi is currently accepting nominations for the individual awards to be presented at the dinner on May 18th. All members of the EMSC Advisory Council will be invited to the awards dinner.

NJ School Nurse Survey

A multi-paged survey was sent to every school nurse in New Jersey (4000 surveys). Over 1700 surveys were returned to date. The New Jersey State Nurses Association will be compiling the data for the Department. Of note is that the Department of Education has recently created regulations, which require continuing education for certified school nurses.

Deputy Commissioner

On March 1, 2000, Dr. George T. DiFerdinando Jr., MD, MPH, will be the Deputy Commissioner of Health and Senior Services. Dr. DiFerdinando has most recently been affiliated with the New York State Department of Health. As in the past, an invitation will be

extended to Dr. DiFerdinando, to join us at upcoming EMSC Advisory Council meetings.

Old Business

Interpersonal Youth Violence Protocol

The final draft of the protocol has been distributed to members of the EMSC Advisory Council and members of the Interpersonal Youth Violence Committee. OEMS has not received any comments or suggested amendments to the protocol. Ms. Kelly-Goodstein will forward the protocol to Ms. Celeste Andriot-Wood, Assistant Commissioner of Health.

As a result of a Governor's special initiative, the Department, in conjunction with the University of Medicine and Dentistry, is in the process of developing a training video for prehospital emergency medical services providers and emergency department personnel on the topic of interpersonal youth violence.

New Business

Health Care Finance Administration

Mr. Muench reported that the Health Care Finance Administration (HCFA) is updating the national ambulance fees. A 1966 federal law states that Medicare will only pay for advanced life support if the patient is transported. New Jersey previously has had a waiver for the transport rule. The patient receives only one bill, through an agreement between the advanced and basic life support providers. The report and subsequent regulations should be released shortly. It is unclear what effect these changes will have on New Jersey. The best-case scenario will be that there is no change to our system. The worst-case scenario is that our entire EMS system will be subject to reform. The changes will be implemented over the next several years in stages. There are more questions than answers at this point. However, it was suggested that the EMSC Advisory Council members contact their legislators, and suggest that the system remain the same and ask that HCFA propose a solution.

National Pediatric Trauma Registry

Dr. Brennan reported that he has been asked to participate on a national committee working to develop a standardized set of data elements. The Kiwanis has funded a number of programs to research pediatric trauma data. Dr. Brennan discussed the New Jersey Emergency Department Pediatric Critical Care Registry with other national experts. A number of individuals have expressed an interest in helping us with this project. The items discussed included:

- Dr. Sacchetti to develop the specific data elements
- The development of a budget for hardware, software and human resources

- Use of 2 or 3 people to be responsible for the data
- Use the experiences of the national “experts” in our design phase
- New Jersey’s population is estimated to be over 8 million people, with 2,952,000 seeking medical care at an emergency department each year

Pediatric Standing Orders Dr. Larry DesRochers, Community Medical Center, is the chairperson of the Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council’s committee on Standing Orders. Dr. DesRochers was unable to attend today’s meeting, but requested that we forward to him any specific concerns or recommendations for amendments to the existing pediatric standing orders. Dr. DesRochers has received and reviewed the protocols developed by the National Association of Emergency Medical Directors.

Dr. Leva suggested that the use of Diastat be included for seizure management. Mr. Muench noted that since Diastat was a Valium based product, the mobile intensive care units were already permitted to use this medication.

Rapid Sequence Induction Dr. Brennan reported that a committee was formed to amend the proposed rapid sequence induction (RSI) training program. The recommendation of the EMSC Advisory Council to limit the use of RSI to adult patients was shared with the Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council.

Near Fatality Definition Dr. Leva requested a recommendation for the definition of a near fatality. Dr. Leva is part of a statewide mortality review committee, and the group is looking for a clear and concise definition of near fatality. Dr. Cunningham suggested similar language to that of a drowning versus near drowning. Any suggestions should be forwarded to Dr. Leva.

Election of Officers Dr. Cunningham reported that the nominations committee had discussed with both Dr. Briglia and Ms. Ferolito continuing in their positions. Nominations from the floor were requested, receiving none, Dr. Briglia was re-elected as chair and Ms. Ferolito as vice-chair.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Attachments

2000 Meeting Schedule

Tuesday - May 23, 2000 (Ground Floor - Auditorium)
Tuesday - July 25, 2000 (Ground Floor - Auditorium)
Tuesday - September 26, 2000 (Ground Floor - Auditorium)
Tuesday - November 28, 2000 (Ground Floor - Auditorium)

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Health and Agriculture Building
John Fitch Plaza
Market and New Warren Streets
Trenton, New Jersey
(609) 633-7777

EMSC Council Membership

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<u>Recommending Organization</u>	<u>Area of Expertise</u>
Dr. Richard Flyer	10/20/97	NJ Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics	Practicing Pediatrician
*Dr. Frank Briglia	06/13/97	NJ Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics	Pediatric Critical Care Physician
Dr. Frank Cunningham	06/27/00	NJ Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics	Board Certified Pediatric Emergency Physician
Dr. Martin Diamond		NJ Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics	Pediatric Physiatrist
Dr. Thomas Whalen	12/21/98	NJ Chapter-American College of Surgeons	Pediatric Surgeon
*Dr. Alfred Sacchetti		NJ Chapter-American College of Emergency Physicians	Emergency Physician
Mr. Daniel Sullivan	06/13/00	New Jersey State First Aid Council	Emergency Medical Technician
*Ms. Laurine McCarty	06/27/97	Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council	Paramedic
VACANT		NJ Chapter of the Academy of Family Practice	Family Practice Physician
Dr. Mary Kamienski	12/07/01	NJ State Nurses Association	Registered Emergency Nurse
Mr. Jesus Cepero	06/13/00	NJ Chapter-Emergency Nurses Association	Registered Emergency Nurse
Ms. Carolyn Ferolito	06/27/00	Association for Children of NJ & Junior Leagues of NJ	Parent (child under 18 years of age)
Ms. Connie Levine	05/11/00	Association for Children of NJ & Junior Leagues of NJ	Parent (child under 18 years of age)
Ms. MaryEllen Brock	06/27/00	Association for Children of NJ & Junior Leagues of NJ	Parent (child under 18 years of age)

*Indicates that this individual has been recommended by the Governor for the EMSC Council, but is awaiting confirmation by the Senate Judiciary Committee.